

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVIII.....No. 350

## AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn, opposite City Hall—  
ALMA OR HEART IN BONDAGE.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 25th st. and Broadway—  
OLD HEAD AND YOUNG HEART.BOOTH'S THEATRE, Sixth av. and Twenty-third st.—  
KIT, OR THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLER.METROPOLITAN THEATRE, 555 Broadway.—VARIETY  
ENTERTAINMENT.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S THEATRE.—LADY OF  
LYONS.LYCEUM THEATRE, Fourteenth street.—LADY OF  
LYONS.THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY  
ENTERTAINMENT.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston  
and Broome sts.—DRAK HEART.WILLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and  
Eighth sts.—CHILDREN IN THE WOOD.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth  
street.—DUKE.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, near  
Broadway.—LAD ASTRAY.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.—  
THE IRISH DETECTIVE. Afternoon and evening.BROADWAY THEATRE, 725 and 730 Broadway.—  
THE WORKER IN WHITE.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Eighth av. and Twenty-third  
st.—HURRY DUNNY AROUND.GERMANIA THEATRE, 14th street and 3d avenue.—  
DIE STUFTUNG.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—  
VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. Matinee at 2.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner  
Sixth av.—NEGRO MINSTRELS; &c.RAIN HALL, Great Jones street, between Broadway  
and Bowery.—THE FIDELITY.ASSOCIATION HALL, 23d street and 4th avenue.—  
MADAME AT 2—SHAKESPEARIAN REPRESENTATIONS.THE RINK, 3d Avenue and 6th street.—MANAGERIE AND  
MUSIQUE. Afternoon and evening.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1873.

## THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the  
Herald."THE NATIONAL FINANCES: FIRST SKIRMISH-  
ING IN CONGRESS! TAXATION OR RE-  
DUCED EXPENDITURES! SQUINTING AT  
INFLATION!"—LEADER—SIXTH PAGE.CONGRESS AND THE NATIONAL FINANCES: A  
FIELD DAY YESTERDAY! A GREAT DEAL  
OF BUNCUMBE! THE TAX INCREASE!  
THE BANKRUPT REPEAL BILL! SUM-  
NER AND PINCHBACK—THIRD PAGE.FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS  
YESTERDAY! THE SPECULATORS AWAIT-  
ING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION! GOLD UP—  
HOW THE BROOKLYN TREASURY WAS  
ROBBED—NINTH PAGE.WALL STREET BUSINESS PHOTOGRAPHED IN  
INK! WHAT WILL CONGRESS DO?—PUL-  
PIT AND LITERARY THIEFS—ABUSE OF  
POLICE CLERKS—FIFTH PAGE.THE CUBAN CAPTAIN GENERAL URGED TO  
PROCLAIM MARTIAL LAW THROUGHOUT  
THE ISLAND! THE RIOTERS DENOUCED!  
MEETING OF SLAVE OWNERS! THE VIR-  
GINIUS SURRENDER—SEVENTH PAGE.VIGOROUS REBOMBARDMENT OF CARTAGENA!  
SIEGE SUCCESS TO ASSURE THE RECOGN-  
ITION OF THE REPUBLIC—SEVENTH PAGE.FRENCH PETITION FOR RESTORATION OF  
THE MONARCHY! COMPENSATION TO THE  
EX-EMPEROR—EXTREME AGITATION OF  
EUGENIE OVER THE BAZAINE SENTENCE—  
SEVENTH PAGE.GERMANY TAKES 24,000,000 MARKS OF THE  
NEW HUNGARIAN LOAN—SWISS PRESI-  
DENTIAL ELECTION—SEVENTH PAGE.THROWING TEA INTO THE SEA! HOW IT IS  
PROPOSED TO COMMEMORATE THE DAR-  
ING ACT OF PATRIOTIC SAMUEL ADAMS  
A CENTURY AGO—SEVENTH PAGE.A WORLD'S SORROW! LAST HOURS OF  
AGASSIZ—IMPORTANT GENERAL NEWS—  
SEVENTH PAGE.THE SINKING OF THE VILLE DU HAVRE! SUR-  
VIVORS' ACCOUNTS—FACTS ABOUT THE  
ACCIDENT TO THE COAL BARGE UPLAND—  
FOURTH PAGE.HONORING THE LAMENTED NELSON! ELO-  
QUENT TRIBUTES BY THE BENCH AND  
BAR! COURTS ADJOURNED! THE OBSER-  
VATIONS—THE PASSION PLAY ALBUM—  
FOURTH PAGE.THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT AND  
THE LATE JUSTICE NELSON! STATES  
HAVE THE RIGHT TO TAX THE PACIFIC  
RAILWAYS—THE PRESS ON THE CHIEF  
JUSTICESHIP—FIFTH PAGE.POLICE "PULLING" THE "POLICY" PEOPLE!  
A SORTIE BY THE FOURTEENTH PRE-  
CINCT ON THE BOWERY HEADQUARTERS  
OF THE CURSE OF THE CITY—TROTTING  
TURF TROUBLES—FIFTH PAGE.THE KILLING OF PATRULMAN BURNS—MUNI-  
CIPAL MATTERS—EIGHTH PAGE.PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURTS YESTERDAY—  
OBITUARIES—EIGHTH PAGE.

THE POLICE RAID ON THE POLICY DEALERS.

The headquarters of the great policy organiza-  
tion in the Bowery, which has about six hun-  
dred branch offices in this city alone, were  
visited by the police yesterday and an effectual  
stop was put to this nefarious business. The  
extent of the policy swindle is alarming, no  
less than three million dollars being the an-  
nual receipts at the office in question. This  
enormous amount of money is mainly drawn  
from the hard earnings of the working classes,  
who are deluded into being robbed by the  
specious representations of those unconscion-  
able gamblers. Although the action of the  
police is tardy, it is no less welcome. The  
present Board of Police Commissioners will  
earn for themselves the gratitude and esteem  
of the respectable portion of the community  
if they persist to the end in abolishing all  
those dens in which the public are daily  
fleece. The policy swindle is worse than the  
transactions of faro and keno concerns, as  
the inducements held out to poor people are  
more tempting and veiled under the appearance  
of fair dealing. All honor to the police for what  
they have accomplished in this matter.

THE LETTER OF A BROTHER.—The sad story  
of the Ville du Havre calamity seems to be in-  
exhaustible. This morning we publish, among  
other interesting matter describing the mel-  
ancholy scenes during the last moments, a letter  
from a young gentleman of this city, Mr.  
Waite, who, with his young sister, left our  
shores, contemplating a tour of pleasure in  
the Old World, little dreaming that it would  
cast a dark cloud of gloom and sorrow over  
his future years. We will let him tell his own  
story, one of peculiar horror and tenderness,  
revealing qualities which the public will not  
be slow to applaud.

The National Finances—First Skirmish-  
ing in Congress—Taxation or  
Reduced Expenditures—Squinting at  
Inflation.

It has been evident since the opening of  
Congress and the publication of Secretary  
Richardson's report to that body that the  
subject of the national finances must soon be  
discussed. It assumed unusual importance  
yesterday from the debate in the House of  
Representatives, from the letter of the Sec-  
retary of the Treasury to Mr. Dawes, the Chair-  
man of the Committee of Ways and Means,  
and from the resolution of Judge Kelley.  
Though no definite action will take place till  
after the holidays the matter will come up,  
undoubtedly, immediately on the reassembling  
of Congress. We can form some idea, how-  
ever, from the occurrences yesterday what the  
drift of opinion is in Congress.

The Committee of Ways and Means, as  
represented by the chairman and other promi-  
nent members, had evinced no disposition to  
accede to Secretary Richardson's recommenda-  
tion to increase taxation for the relief of the  
Treasury. The committee passed a resolution  
asking the Secretary to give his reasons in  
writing for an increase of taxation, and why  
he had selected the articles named in his  
report as the proper objects of taxation, and  
also to inform the committee specifically as to  
the expenditures and condition of the revenue  
which render the proposed increase necessary.  
The reply of Mr. Richardson will be found in  
another part of the paper. He recurs to the  
remarks in his report "that, should there not  
be a revival of business at an early day and an  
increase in the receipts over those of the past  
two and a half months, additional means  
would be required to meet expenditures." In  
that case he recommended additional taxation,  
judiciously laid, so as to be the least burden  
upon the people and business of the country,  
rather than resort to borrowing money and  
increasing the public debt.

The Secretary then goes on to say that the  
receipts from customs and internal taxes have  
not materially increased, and that no con-  
siderable augmentation is soon to be expected  
under existing laws. This term, "materially  
increased," is a little ambiguous. Does Mr.  
Richardson mean that the receipts have not  
increased much over those of a corresponding  
period, or over his estimates? Or does he  
mean that they have actually fallen off? If  
there had been any increase at all, as is im-  
plied by the term "not materially increased,"  
we cannot see the necessity for more taxes.  
But he means, no doubt, that there has been  
a positive decline of the revenue. The public  
will be rather surprised to learn, from his  
statement to the Committee of Ways and  
Means, that the public debt was increased  
nine millions during the month of November,  
that it will be still further augmented the  
current month by many millions, that the  
coin receipts are little more than sufficient  
to pay interest on the debt and other coin  
expenditures, that, therefore, it will not be  
prudent to sell gold to give more currency,  
and that eighteen millions have been drawn  
from the forty millions legal tender reserve  
to meet the current expenses of the govern-  
ment. He remarks further that there remains  
only about twenty-six millions of this  
reserve which can be used before the extreme  
limit of the issue of United States notes  
authorized by law will be reached.

He deems it necessary, in order to maintain  
the public credit, that the receipts of the  
Treasury be fully up to the ordinary expendi-  
tures, for interest on the public debt and for  
the purchase of bonds for the sinking fund to  
the amount provided by law. He prefers to  
have a surplus revenue rather than incur the  
risk of a deficiency. He has selected  
spirits, tobacco, gas, railway and steamboat  
receipts, express, insurance and telegraph  
companies as subjects of taxation, in order to  
raise the revenue he demands, and as they are  
in his opinion best adapted for that, and because  
the taxes would be collected with greater fac-  
ility, and with less cost, than in any other  
way. He urges immediate action, as he is  
somewhat fearful of the uneasiness of the peo-  
ple, and as some time must elapse before the  
laws could go into operation and the results  
be obtained. Mr. Richardson says nothing  
about reducing expenditures, which is the very  
thing the Committee of Ways and Means  
seemed to be most intent about.

The debate that sprung up in the House on  
this same subject of meeting the requirements  
of the government was inspired, we presume,  
by the apparent conflicting attitude between  
the Secretary of the Treasury and the Com-  
mittee of Ways and Means. Mr. Dawes seems  
to have been very wary, and to use a colloquial  
expression, on the fence. He was disinclined  
to make a direct issue with the Treasury De-  
partment, but could not refrain from refer-  
ring to reckless estimates. Mr. Garfield sub-  
mitted resolutions for the reduction of esti-  
mates. Mr. Butler contended that taxation  
would fail and advocated the issue of more  
currency. Mr. Cox, speaking for his New  
York constituency, expressed fear that an in-  
creased tax would be imposed upon tea and  
coffee. He wanted the people to know what  
fresh burdens they might expect. Mr. Kelley  
was very decided against additional taxation,  
and seemed for the time to have the sentiment  
of the House with him. He informally sub-  
mitted to the Committee of Ways and Means  
the following resolution, with notice that he  
intended to offer it in the House under a  
motion for the suspension of the rules:—"That  
it is the sense of this House that the taxes  
which now burden the people should not be  
increased; but that the extraordinary means,  
if any be required, for the support of the  
government during the temporary paralysis  
of the industries of the country now prevailing,  
should be obtained on a temporary loan on bonds  
bearing a low rate of interest in currency  
and redeemable in United States notes." It  
is said on one hand that no vote of the com-  
mittee was asked on this resolution, and on the  
other that the committee refused to report it.  
It is evident, however, that it met with  
favor by a large number of the members  
of the House, that the committee fought shy  
of it, and that the substance of it, at least,  
entered largely into the debate to which we  
have referred. Nothing further will be done,  
probably, till after the holidays; at least there  
is not likely to be any definite action on this  
or any similar resolution. Judging from what  
occurred yesterday the House is more in favor  
of inflation, or an additional issue of currency,  
than of increased taxation. A majority, no  
doubt, would prefer a reduction of estimates

and expenditures. A change may come over  
members before they meet in January, par-  
ticularly if the administration, which is well  
nigh all powerful, should be determined to  
use the party whip and force its measures.

Although the resolution proposed by Mr.  
Kelley is not very explicit, and seems to be  
framed to prevent the idea getting abroad  
that any great increase of the currency is  
contemplated, it seems to carry out that  
gentleman's well known views regarding a  
legal tender and convertible currency.  
A temporary loan on bonds means, we  
apprehend, a new issue of  
bonds, bearing, as Mr. Kelley says, a low rate  
of interest in currency—three sixty-five, per-  
haps—and these being redeemable in United  
States notes are intended to give elasticity to  
the currency. It would be well, prob-  
ably, if relief could be obtained both  
to the Treasury and the business interests  
of the country while passing through present  
difficulties without adding to the volume of  
circulation—if the present amount could be  
put in such a form as to give elasticity.  
Withdrawing the national bank circula-  
tion and substituting in its place  
legal tenders would not increase the  
volume of currency, while at the same  
time it would afford all the relief the  
Treasury needs, or is likely to need. It would,  
besides, give the profit of three hundred mil-  
lions of circulation to the government and  
people. That amount of six per cent  
bonds taken up with the legal tender  
issue would save to the country eighteen  
millions a year. Such a uniform currency,  
based directly on the credit of the govern-  
ment, if kept steady or not augmented, must,  
in the course of a reasonable time, with a  
favorable state of foreign trade and  
exchange, approximate to a specie basis.  
The greenbacks would become as good as  
gold. It is not the greenback currency that is  
in the way of specie payments, as many fool-  
ishly argue, but the balance of trade and our  
indebtedness abroad. We should reach specie  
payments no sooner if all the legal  
tenders were withdrawn and a national  
bank currency were issued in its place. In-  
deed, we should be further off, and  
it may well be doubted if we should ever have  
a specie basis with a national bank currency  
of six or seven hundred millions. We would  
have the government look steadily toward  
specie payments, and direct all its measures  
to that end, and if possible fix some time  
in the future for that. There is nothing  
scarcely that this country cannot accomplish  
when fully resolved. In the meantime, how-  
ever, it would be better to overcome the ex-  
isting embarrassments of the Treasury by re-  
trenchment than by increased taxation. At  
any rate the greenbacks could be used in the  
way we have mentioned without inflating the  
volume of currency in circulation.

## Our Streets—The Duty of the Authorities.

Among the many nuisances that afflict tax-  
payers, most of them owing their continued  
existence to the apathy and criminal careles-  
ness of the constituted authorities who are  
supposed to watch over the interests of the  
city, the least tolerable are those that infest  
our thoroughfares. The condition of some of  
the principal streets after a rain storm or a  
heavy fall of snow is disgraceful in the ex-  
treme and dangerous to pedestrians. In many  
places ruts and defective pavements are per-  
mitted to remain as man traps, and severe in-  
juries are frequently the result. Street lamps  
are at times extinguished by the wind and no  
effort is made to relight them. Iron doors and  
ventilators encumber the sidewalks, and are  
admirably adapted for breaking limbs or ripping  
clothing. The public complain and  
journals are filled with indignant remon-  
strances against these nuisances; but no  
sensible action is ever taken to remove them.  
The patrolman walks leisurely along the  
street, making a note of the number of un-  
lighted lamps he has passed on his beat, yet  
he never thinks of relighting them, although  
it would not interfere in the slightest degree  
with his special duties. How easy, too,  
would it be for the knight of the shield  
and baton to throw a plank or two  
across a dangerous rut or place stepping stones  
where the slush and mud are ankle deep? This  
is a mode of utilizing the police that cannot  
be objected to on reasonable grounds. They  
should be compelled, in their capacity as pro-  
tectors of person and property, to remove  
anything that may be injurious to the same when  
opportunity offers. Now that we may look for  
the commencement of the real winter season,  
with its attendant snow, thaw, rain and slush,  
the question of street cleaning should also  
be considered from a practical point of view.  
Treacherous hillocks of frozen mud, hidden  
in pools of slush, should not be allowed to  
remain until the sun alone removes them. The  
police authorities, with very little exertion,  
could render our streets comparatively com-  
fortable, even during the most inclement win-  
ter. The only question is, will they do it?

ONE RESULT OF THE HARBOR OBSTRUCTIONS,  
caused by the vast quantities of ashes and  
garbage which are being constantly thrown  
into the river and bay, has been shown in  
the stranding in the bay of the fine ocean steamer  
Greece, belonging to the National line. The  
regular channel is being rapidly filled up  
by these obstructions, and certainly the  
prompt action of Pilot Commissioner Blunt  
against such unlawful practices is sadly  
needed, if we wish to keep the commerce of  
the metropolis intact. A couple of swift  
police boats, patrolling our waters night and  
day and keeping a sharp lookout for delin-  
quents, will serve as an efficient check against  
such an unwarrantable nuisance.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE, according to a news  
despatch which we publish this morning, is  
deeply grieved at the sentence passed upon Mar-  
shal Bazaine. A visit about to be made to Queen  
Victoria has been postponed in consequence.  
Why should not the Empress be grieved? The  
disgraced Marshal of France loved the house  
of which she is a prominent representative, not  
wisely, but too well. What may happen in  
France we know not; but if the Bonapartes  
at an early day return to power Bazaine will,  
no doubt, benefit by Eugenie's grief. Bazaine  
has a chance which poor Ney had not.

SIGNIFICANT OF NOT VERY HARD TIMES—  
To see twenty or thirty private carriages at  
one time in front of one of our Broadway  
fashionable jewelry stores, and streams of  
others going and coming from nine A. M. to  
four P. M.

Military Correspondents of Live Jour-  
nals.

Sir Garnet Wolseley, perhaps, is not to  
blame for declaring newspaper correspondents  
to be the curse of modern armies—we mean  
he does not know any better. He is a type of  
a very common class of men in the world,  
who would fain be their own historians; who  
would be the sole commentators on their own  
acts, and who regard the daily chronicler in  
their midst as a military spy and literary  
pirate. We know this character well. He  
inveighs against the press—"an accused in-  
stitution, you know—engine of slander,  
vehicle of false intelligence," and so on. This  
is all public declamation. Its utterance  
gives tone to its author—he becomes a man of  
quality; he is of the first estate; the press of  
the fourth. But with what strange action he  
gives illustration to his words. He is never  
more courtly, never more polite, never more  
deferential than in the company of the special  
correspondent, whom he classes elsewhere  
under the generic title of a "camp loafer." It  
is this style of man who will call the  
special correspondent aside, after an  
abundant feast, and whisper in his ear,  
"if you mention my name  
make it short." It is this class of people who  
through the newspaper offices of New York  
with "personal intelligence" respecting their  
own remarkable selves, or "news of the first  
importance to the community" concerning  
some business enterprises of their own. It is  
this portion of the human race who send more  
waste-basketed communications to the press  
than all the rest of mankind. They do not like  
the special correspondent because he is the  
historian of the day, the recorder of facts, one  
whose appointed duty is to tell the truth, the  
whole truth and nothing but the truth. We  
know that there are mendacious correspond-  
ents as there are mendacious generals, but  
this should lead no one to conclude that they  
are all of the bad. Now, if Sir Garnet  
Wolseley were conducting his expedition  
against Ashantee at his own expense, and as a  
private enterprise, perhaps there might be a  
reason for excluding a special correspondent  
from his camp. But it so happens that Great  
Britain supplies the coin, and very consider-  
able coin, to say nothing of some valuable  
lives. It is, therefore, of some interest to  
British subjects who are directly taxed to  
make a big reputation for Sir Garnet, to  
know what use he makes of his money  
and his men. This is the reason why a  
correspondent representing a large  
constituency has a right to accompany  
all operations in which those constituents are  
interested. In the early times, when the  
newspaper correspondent did not exist, mili-  
tary expeditions went into history with all the  
coloring, all the vainglorious and pompous  
self-puffery which a commanding general  
might be able to command from his Boswell.  
Thus we remain in ignorance of many of the  
colonial wars which have been prosecuted by  
the maritime Powers. To-day that kind of  
deception is impossible. The correspondent  
prevents it, as he also gives just credit and  
deserved praise when due. When the rebel-  
lion broke out an attempt was made to obtain  
correspondence from those actually engaged  
in the service. All of those men proved fail-  
ures because they could not devote the neces-  
sary attention to their pens. Then the special  
military correspondent became an institution  
and a useful public servant, as our copious  
and graphic letters from Cape Coast Castle  
printed yesterday morning furnish ample  
proof. We doubt not Sir Garnet Wolseley  
will return with a high opinion of this class of  
writers if he become a successful general in  
the present campaign; but if he reaches Eng-  
land with a long face and disaster in his heart  
newspaper correspondents will be viler than  
any of those beings who ever depended from  
Tyburn Tree.

Congress—Louisiana—The Finances—  
Taxation—The Bankrupt Law.

The contested Louisiana Senatorial election  
was brought before the Senate yesterday, with  
the report from the committee on the subject,  
submitted by Mr. Morton, that as the commit-  
tee upon the contested election between P. B.  
S. Pinchback and General McMillen were  
evenly divided he would ask that the commit-  
tee be relieved from further consideration of  
the matter and that it be referred to the Sen-  
ate. It was so ordered, when Mr. Morton in-  
troduced a resolution that the credentials of  
P. B. S. Pinchback are formal, and that he is  
entitled to a seat in the Senate, having a *prima*  
*facie* case; and upon this proposition Mr.  
Morton gave notice that after the morning  
hour to-morrow (i. e., to-day) he would ask  
the attention of the Senate.

This appeal from the committee to the  
Senate in behalf of Mr. Pinchback, the colored  
claimant representing the Kellogg party of  
Louisiana, means, no doubt, that although  
Pinchback has failed to pass a judicial ex-  
amination, he is none the less entitled to ad-  
mission as a Senator from Louisiana on  
account of his services to the party which  
holds the power in Louisiana and in the  
Senate. The credentials of Pinchback are  
formal; he has a *prima facie* case, and,  
according to the Senator from Indiana, this  
evidence of an election ought, upon a pinch,  
to be sufficient. We presume, however, that  
the members of the committee who are sat-  
isfied that Pinchback has no claim will, at  
least, enforce a thorough overhauling of this  
very doubtful election before the vote of the  
Senate is taken upon his admission. We  
have had enough of mere formalities in the  
affairs of Louisiana.

The regular order of the day in the Senate  
was Senator Sherman's resolution from the  
Finance Committee in regard to the checks  
and balances necessary to relieve the country  
from its present financial derangements.  
Upon this comprehensive theme Mr. Pratt, of  
Indiana, delivered an argument in favor of an  
inflation of the currency as the one thing  
needed to meet existing emergencies.

In the House of Representatives numerous  
bills and resolutions were introduced, includ-  
ing a bill reported by Mr. Tremain for the  
repeal of the Bankrupt law, which was made  
the special order for this day, and which,  
from present indications, will be passed before  
this day's adjournment. A resolution was  
reported jointly from the Committee of Ways  
and Means and the Committee on Appropria-  
tions requiring the heads of the several ex-  
ecutive departments so to reduce their estimates  
for the ensuing fiscal year as, if possible, to  
obviate the necessity of increased taxation.  
The appeal of the Secretary of the Treasury

for increased taxation to meet increased ex-  
penditures and reduced revenue was doubtless  
the provocation to this resolution from the  
House. As between the Secretary and the  
House, the country will certainly sustain the  
House against an increase of our taxes and in  
favor of a general retrenchment in the na-  
tional expenditures.

## Agassiz and Nelson.

It is but seldom that a great nation has  
reason to mourn the loss almost at the same  
time of two of its most honored and distin-  
guished citizens. The death of Agassiz and  
the death of Judge Nelson, occurring as they  
have done so near each other, have commanded  
the attention of the press, not only here, but in  
Europe. Here, as there, it is felt that two  
good men have passed away from the scenes  
of human activity and that the world is poorer  
from their absence. Judge Nelson was old  
and had retired from active life; Agassiz,  
though not young, was, until quite recently,  
full of hope and full of enterprise; but the  
death of the one and the other have created  
a gulf which it will be difficult to bridge.  
The name of Agassiz is associated with  
some of the grandest triumphs of modern  
science. A foreigner by birth, he was an  
American by choice and by hearty adop-  
tion; and in the future his name will be  
associated with American history. Of all  
the scientists of the present time no one  
was more daring and at the same time more  
conservative than Agassiz; and, wide as was  
his knowledge of the book of nature, he never  
found that that knowledge conformed with  
the Book of Revelation. In this respect he  
was a model scientific inquirer. Judge Nelson,  
in his day, occupied a different  
sphere and had different work. During his  
active life there was, as there is in ours, great  
temptation to do that which was wrong. But  
this man has passed away with a  
record which is as white as snow—  
a record which covers alike his career  
as a lawyer and his career as a judge. Of how  
few of our lawyers and judges still left in the  
midst of us could so much be said! Venality  
is too common at the Bar and on the Bench;  
and although of late improvement has been  
made, there is need for greater improvement  
still. Agassiz and Nelson have both left  
lessons behind them. The lesson read by the  
one is that the deepest knowledge is not in-  
compatible with the highest form of religious  
belief. The lesson read by the other is that  
success in a legitimate calling is not antago-  
nistic to purity of life and integrity of char-  
acter.

## The Coast Signal Service.

The Weather Bureau, we learn, is now ad-  
ding to its storm-signalling machinery a new  
"wheel within a wheel." This is a system of  
coast signals lining the Atlantic beach from  
Cape Hatteras northward. This novel ex-  
periment is designed to bring vessels which  
have been out of port for several days on the  
high seas under the telegraphic premonitions  
from Washington. Thus a vessel, having left  
Cape May an hour after a storm-warning is  
hoisted, will proceed but a little way before  
the coast-signalman will notify her of the ap-  
proaching cyclone.

The Herald more than a year ago urged  
the adoption of some expedient like this to  
caution vessels in transit of the great Atlantic  
gales, and the present experiment will be  
hailed with pleasure by all who sympathize  
with the perilous life of the mariner.

This new branch of the Meteorological  
Department will use the international signal  
code (just issued by the Bureau of Naviga-  
tion), in which its observers have been dili-  
gently trained at Fort Whipple, Va. These  
observers will co-operate with the officials of  
the Life Saving and Wrecking Service now  
on the coast, and they will be in independent  
and telegraphic communication with the Cen-  
tral Signal Office at Washington. The wires  
for this service have been already suspended  
from New York (or rather Sandy Hook) to  
Barnegat and along the entire Jersey coast,  
and are now being laid from Norfolk to Cape  
Henry and Cape Hatteras. Submarine cables  
will be used to cross intervening inlets and  
make the network complete.

This is, we understand, the first service of  
the kind ever undertaken. The cautionary signals  
have heretofore, not only in this, but in Euro-  
pean countries, been displayed to vessels in  
port; but the present arrangement will assist  
the thousands of vessels which constantly run  
up and down the coast to "get wind" of com-  
ing gales and stand out of the way. If these  
signal stations can be connected by cable with  
our off-shore sentinels at the lightships and  
lighthouses their prospective usefulness and  
value to the shipping would, we suggest, be  
very greatly enhanced. We remember how  
last summer the steamer E. M. Arndt came  
into this port at the front of a storm, which  
she was the first to announce, and which fol-  
lowed upon her westward wake. It seems in  
the highest degree probable that, if the coast  
signal station could be connected with the  
lightships, such early announcements of ad-  
vancing northeast gales might be greatly in-  
creased and great good done.

SUMNER'S DOUBLE TEAM.—Senator Sumner,  
it seems, wants to make a double team of  
General Amnesty and his Civil Rights bill.  
Are they not strong enough to travel alone  
and in single harness?

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Albert Bierstadt, the artist, has apartments at  
the Brevoort House.  
Judge Theodore Miller, of Hudson, N. Y., is stay-  
ing at the St. Nicholas Hotel.  
James Tea Fields arrived at the Fifth Avenue  
Hotel from Boston yesterday.  
A son of Senator Morton is to wed a daughter  
of S. P. Brown, of Washington.  
Jerome K. Farnester, of the Troy Press, has ar-  
rived at the Westminster Hotel.  
S. H. Kaufmann, of the Washington Star, is  
registered at the Everett Hotel.  
Colonel W. L. Scott, ex-Major of Erie, Pa., is  
staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.  
The Philadelphia Press of yesterday says, E. L.  
Davenport is seriously indisposed.  
Sir Alexander T. Galt, of Montreal, is among the  
recent arrivals at the Gluey House.  
State Senator-elect Frank Abbott, of Port Jervis,  
N. Y., is registered at the Hoffman House.  
Captain Hamilton Perry, of the steamship Adri-  
atic, has arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel.  
Lieutenant Commander J. C. Kennett, United  
States Navy, is quartered at Barnum's Hotel.  
Robert H. Berdell, ex-President of the Erie  
Railway Company, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.  
Vice President Wilson was a distinguished guest  
at Mr. Drexel's last "Saturday Night" in Phila-  
delphia.  
Captain Robert E. Hall, Adjutant of the West

Point Military Academy, yesterday arrived at the  
Glenham Hotel.

Phil J. Boveridge, son of the Governor of Illi-  
nois, will marry, Dec. 20th, Miss Ella M. Butler,  
in Bloomington, Ill., on the 18th inst.

Sunday last, Dec. 15, was the seventy-fourth  
anniversary of the death of George Washington;  
"first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of  
his countrymen."

A newboy in Wilmington, Del., has saved money  
enough by selling papers to buy his mother a sew-  
ing machine. This is much better than being  
knocked on the head by a brutal policeman.

Colonel Charles H. Taylor has become a  
manager of the Boston Globe, with Edwin Haem as  
assistant. It is often said "the world is given to  
change," and it now seems that the Globe is.

Reporters who attend prize fights must be care-  
ful or they may meet the fate of one of the frater-  
nity in Illinois, who has been arrested and lodged  
in jail for being present in his journalistic capacity  
at a mill in that State that resulted fatally to one  
of the parties.

A Southern paper says of Jeff Davis, that "he  
does not care to enter Congress and play the part  
of the Atturian parrot seen by Humboldt in the  
Azores, which spoke the language of the Atturians,  
an extinct Indian tribe, and whose words no one  
could understand."

The morals of the Milwaukee Sentinel staff seems  
to have been slightly disturbed lately. It appears  
that the paper suddenly changed hands, and the  
editor and proprietor as suddenly found himself  
without an organ. It is stated that Senator Car-  
penter has a finger in this typographical "p. l."

Mrs. Mix, widow of a United States navy cap-  
tain, and mother-in-law of Hon. C. C. Knuts, of  
Wisconsin, died at the residence of the latter in  
Sank county, on the 2d inst., aged 82. One of her  
sons died as a lieutenant in the navy and another  
was killed during the rebellion while Colonel of an  
Iowa regiment. The deceased was well known in  
naval and military circles.

Notwithstanding the democrats have carried  
Texas by some 50,000 majority (as some democratic  
journal might say) the reign of order does not seem  
to be restored in that State. For example, recently  
in Parker county, some young men tried to steal  
the daughter of Mr. Majors, who fired into the  
party. The fire was returned, and Mr. Majors was  
killed. The party was arrested and placed in jail.

## WEATHER REPORT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16—1 A. M.

Probabilities.

For New England on Tuesday, partly cloudy  
weather, with light to gentle northwesterly to  
southwesterly winds.